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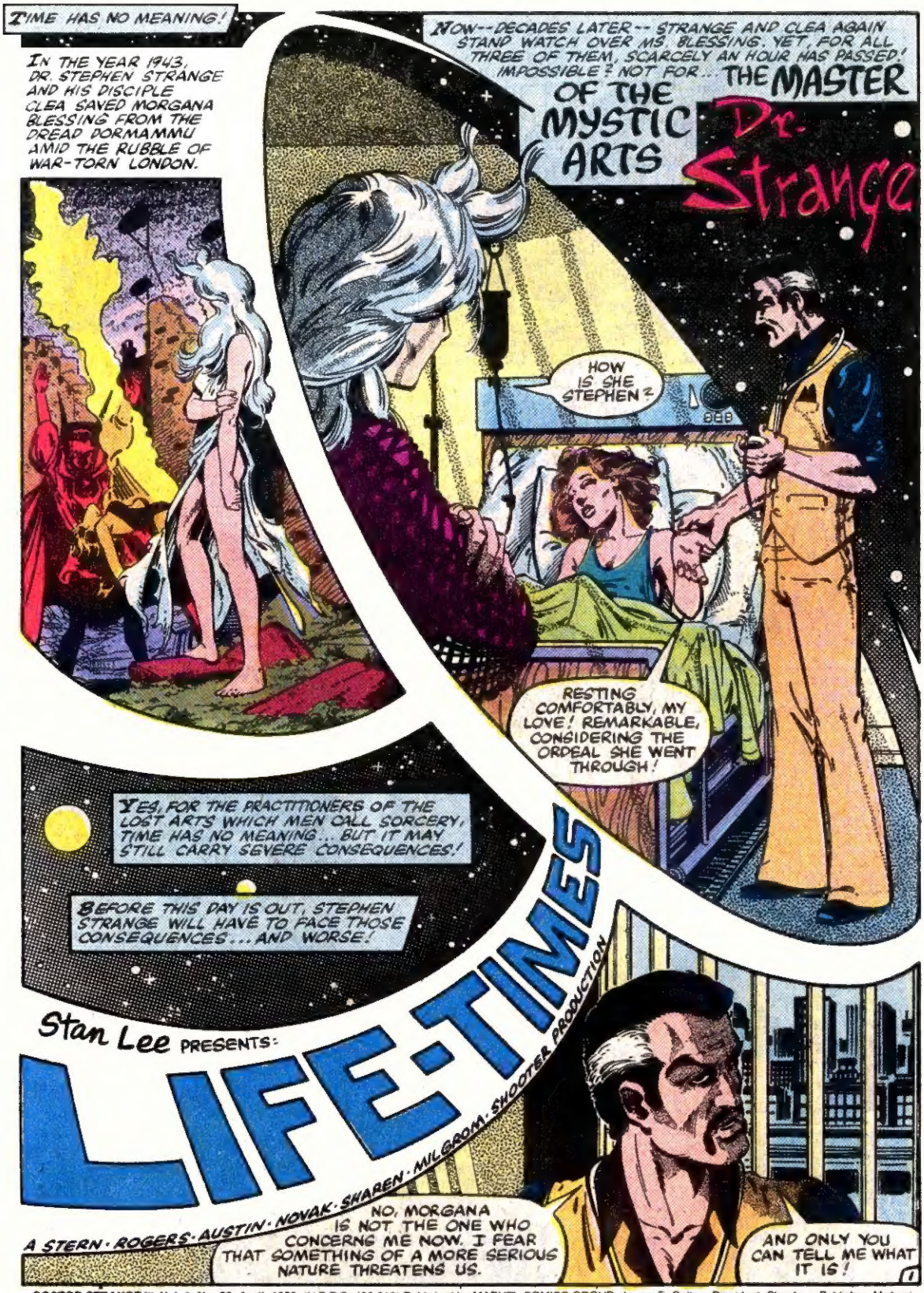
TIME HAS NO MEANING!
IN THE YEAR 1943, DR. STEPHEN STRANGE AND HIS DISCIPLE CLEA SAVED MORGANA BLESSING FROM THE DREAD DORMAMMU AMID THE RUBBLE OF WAR-TORN LONDON.
NOW--DECADES LATER-- STRANGE AND CLEA AGAIN STAND WATCH OVER MS. BLESSING. YET, FOR ALL THREE OF THEM, SCARCELY AN HOUR HAS PASSED! IMPOSSIBLE? NOT FOR... THE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS
Dr. Strange
HOW IS SHE STEPHEN?
RESTING COMFORTABLY, MY LOVE! REMARKABLE, CONSIDERING THE ORDEAL SHE WENT THROUGH!
YES, FOR THE PRACTITIONERS OF THE LOST ARTS WHICH MEN CALL SORCERY, TIME HAS NO MEANING... BUT IT MAY STILL CARRY SEVERE CONSEQUENCES!
BEFORE THIS DAY IS OUT, STEPHEN STRANGE WILL HAVE TO FACE THOSE CONSEQUENCES... AND WORSE!
Stan Lee PRESENTS:
LIFE-TIMES
A STERN · ROGERS · AUSTIN · NOVAK · SHAREN · MILGROM · SHOOTER PRODUCTION
NO, MORGANA IS NOT THE ONE WHO CONCERNS ME NOW. I FEAR THAT SOMETHING OF A MORE SERIOUS NATURE THREATENS US.
AND ONLY YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT IT IS!

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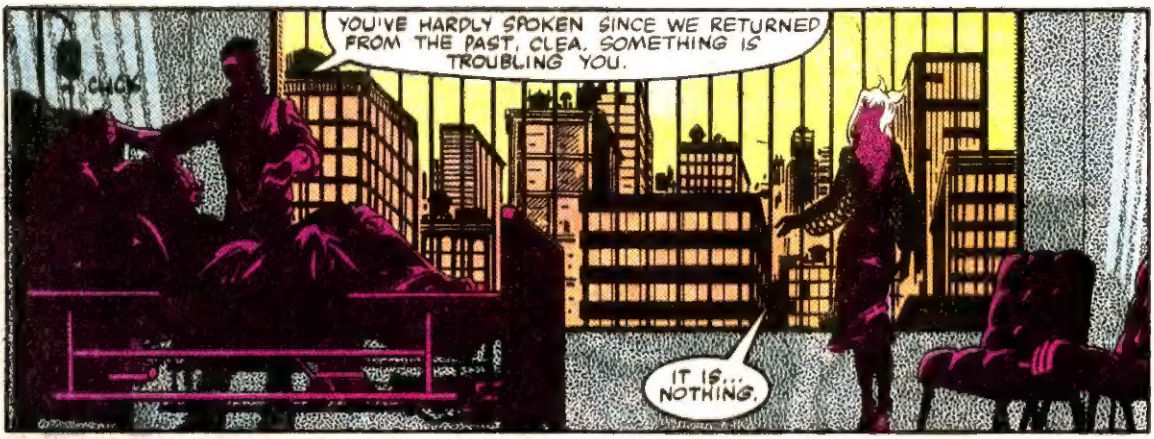
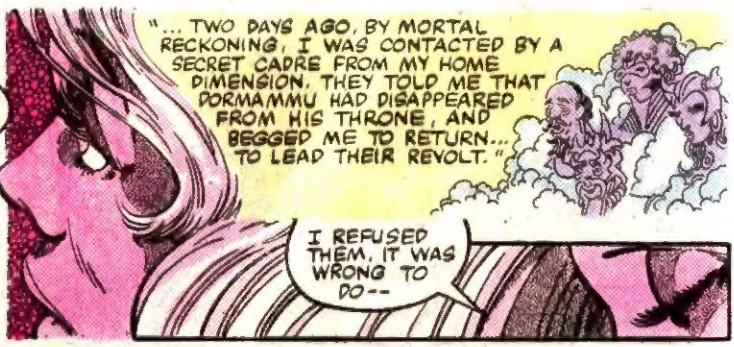
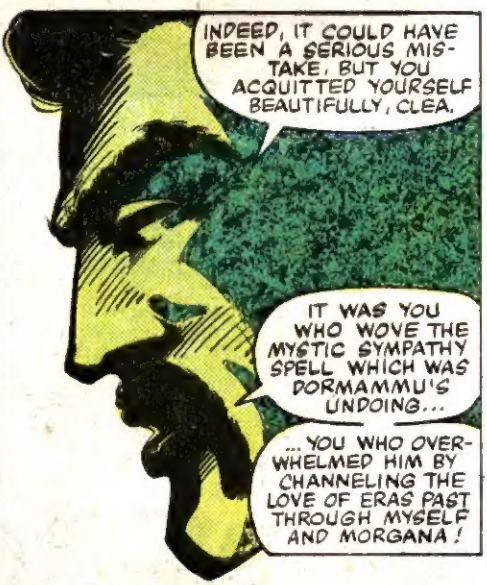

CLICK
YOU'VE HARDLY SPOKEN SINCE WE RETURNED FROM THE PAST, CLEA. SOMETHING IS TROUBLING YOU.
IT IS... NOTHING.

IF YOU'LL NOT SHARE IT WITH ME, IT IS EVERYTHING. WHAT'S WRONG, MY LOVE?
OH, STEPHEN...

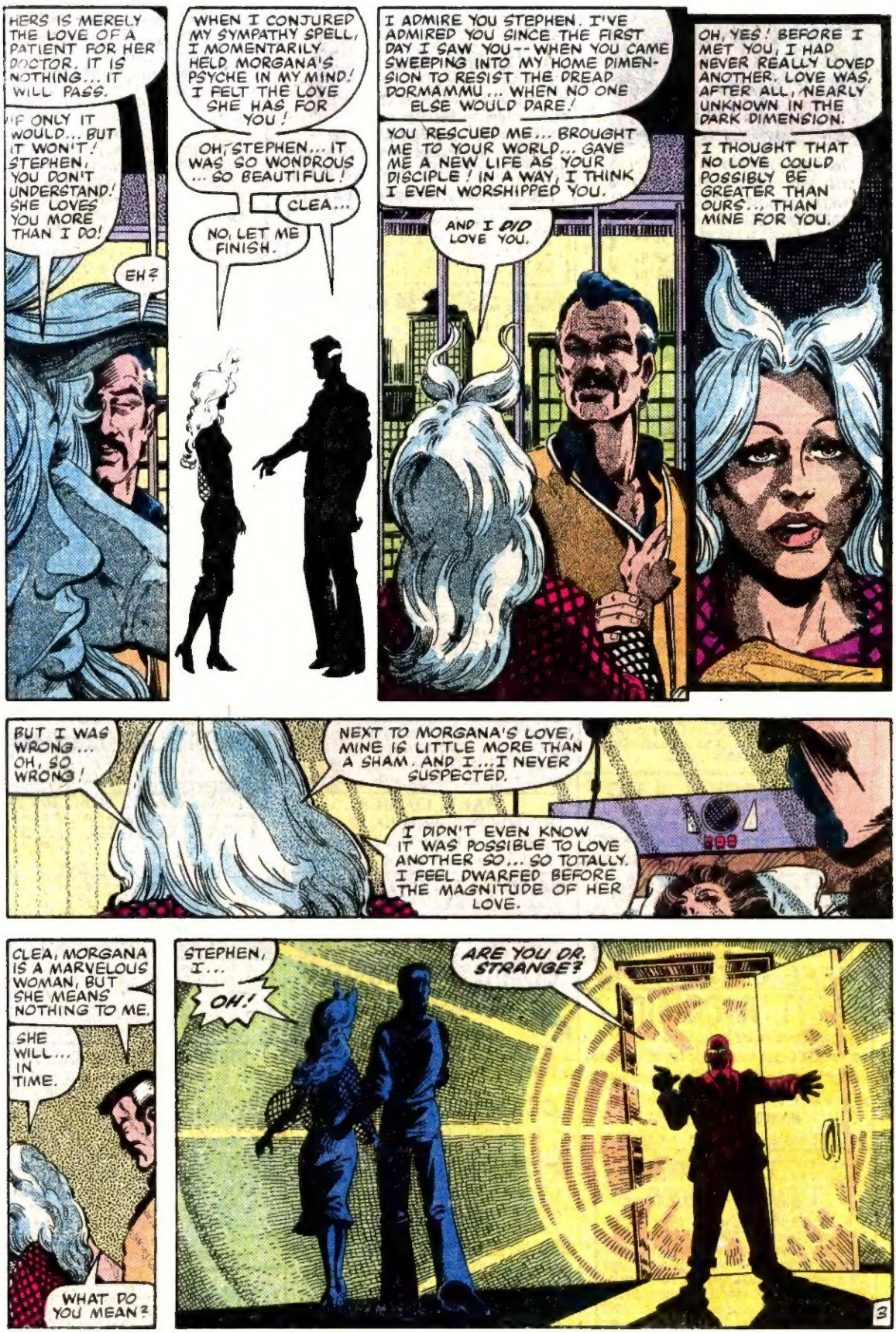

"... TWO DAYS AGO, BY MORTAL RECKONING, I WAS CONTACTED BY A SECRET CADRE FROM MY HOME DIMENSION. THEY TOLD ME THAT DORMAMMU HAD DISAPPEARED FROM HIS THRONE, AND BEGGED ME TO RETURN... TO LEAD THEIR REVOLT."
I REFUSED THEM. IT WAS WRONG TO DO--

--BUT THEIR APPEAL SO ANGERED ME! WHEN WE TWO HAD STOOD AGAINST DORMAMMU'S POWER BEFORE, THEY HAD ALWAYS REMAINED SILENT... UNCARING.
YOUR ANGER WAS UNDERSTANDABLE, BELOVED.
PERHAPS.

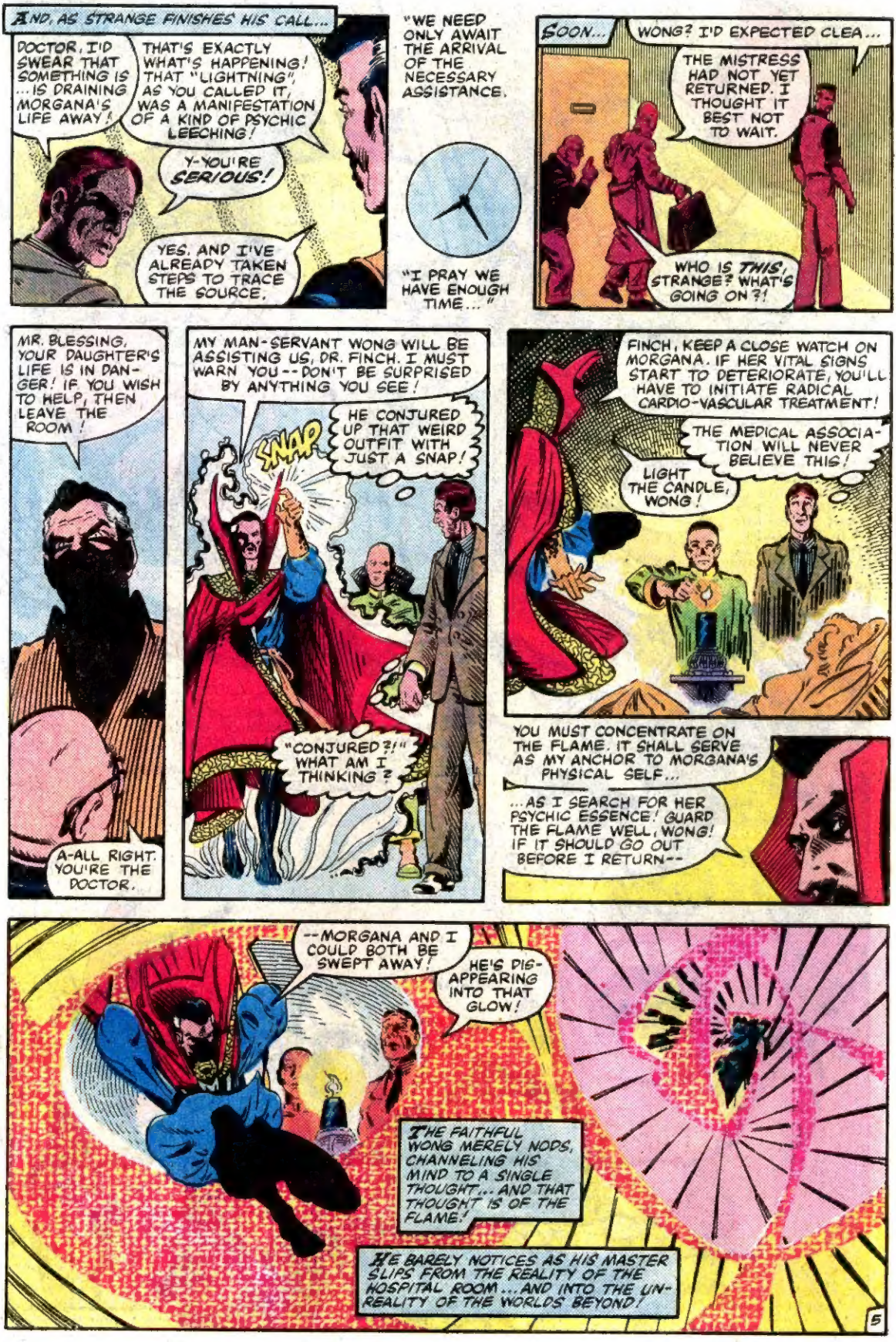
BUT I WAS SO ANGRY, I NEVER MENTIONED THEIR APPEAL TO YOU! IF I HAD, WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN BETTER PREPARED FOR THE TRAP WHICH DORMAMMU SET FOR US IN YOUR WORLD'S PAST!


INDEED, IT COULD HAVE BEEN A SERIOUS MISTAKE. BUT YOU ACQUITTED YOURSELF BEAUTIFULLY, CLEA.
IT WAS YOU WHO WOVE THE MYSTIC SYMPATHY SPELL WHICH WAS DORMAMMU'S UNDOING...
...YOU WHO OVERWHELMED HIM BY CHANNELING THE LOVE OF ERAS PAST THROUGH MYSELF AND MORGANA!

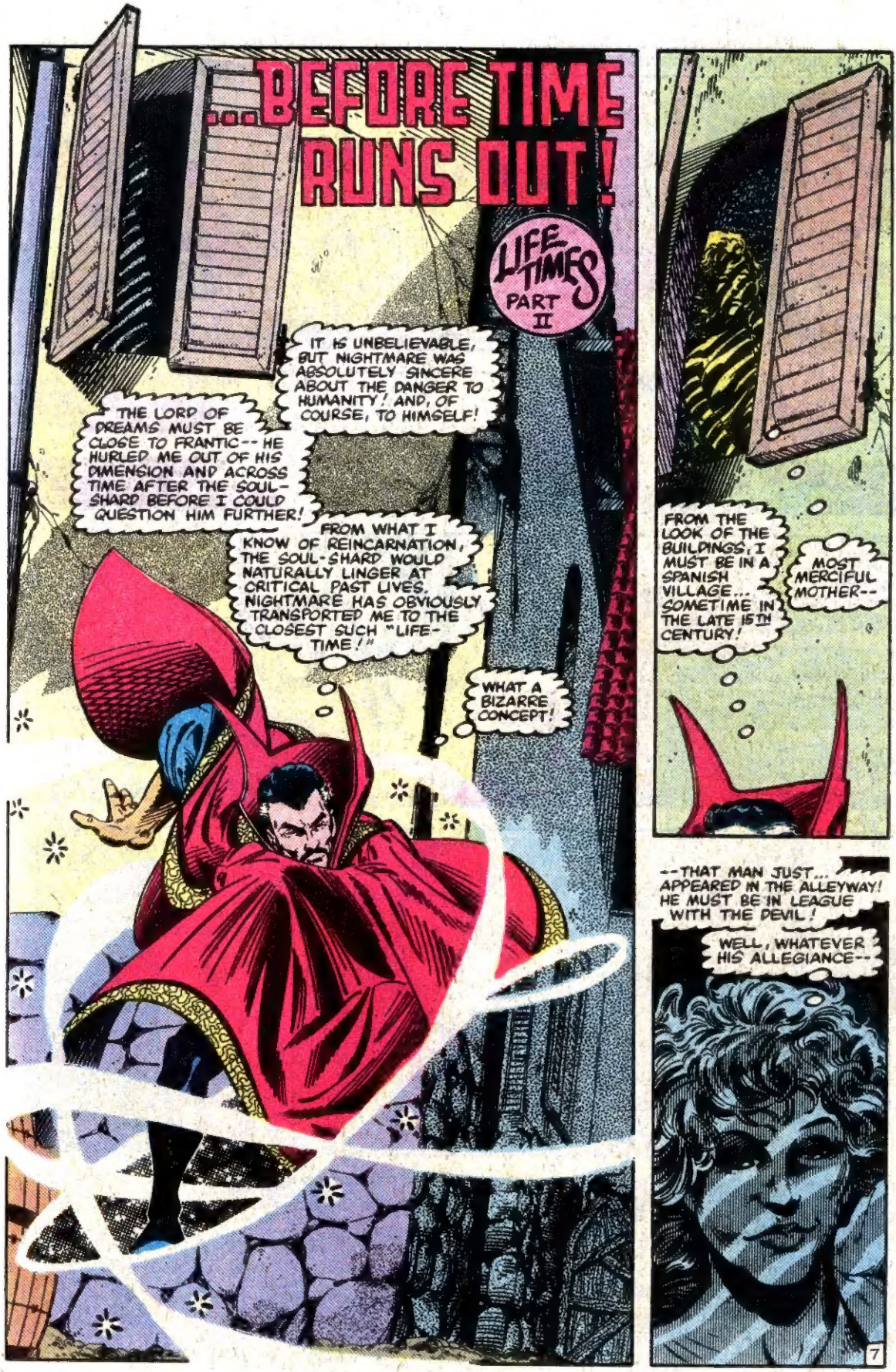
CLEA? DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
CAN'T YOU SEE? MORGANA IS PART OF THE PROBLEM! SHE... SHE LOVES YOU!
OH, IS THAT IT THEN?
CLEA, I HAD SUSPECTED AS MUCH. I HAVE SEEN SUCH CASES OF "LOVE" BEFORE, EVEN WHEN I WAS A SIMPLE PRACTITIONER OF MEDICINE.
2

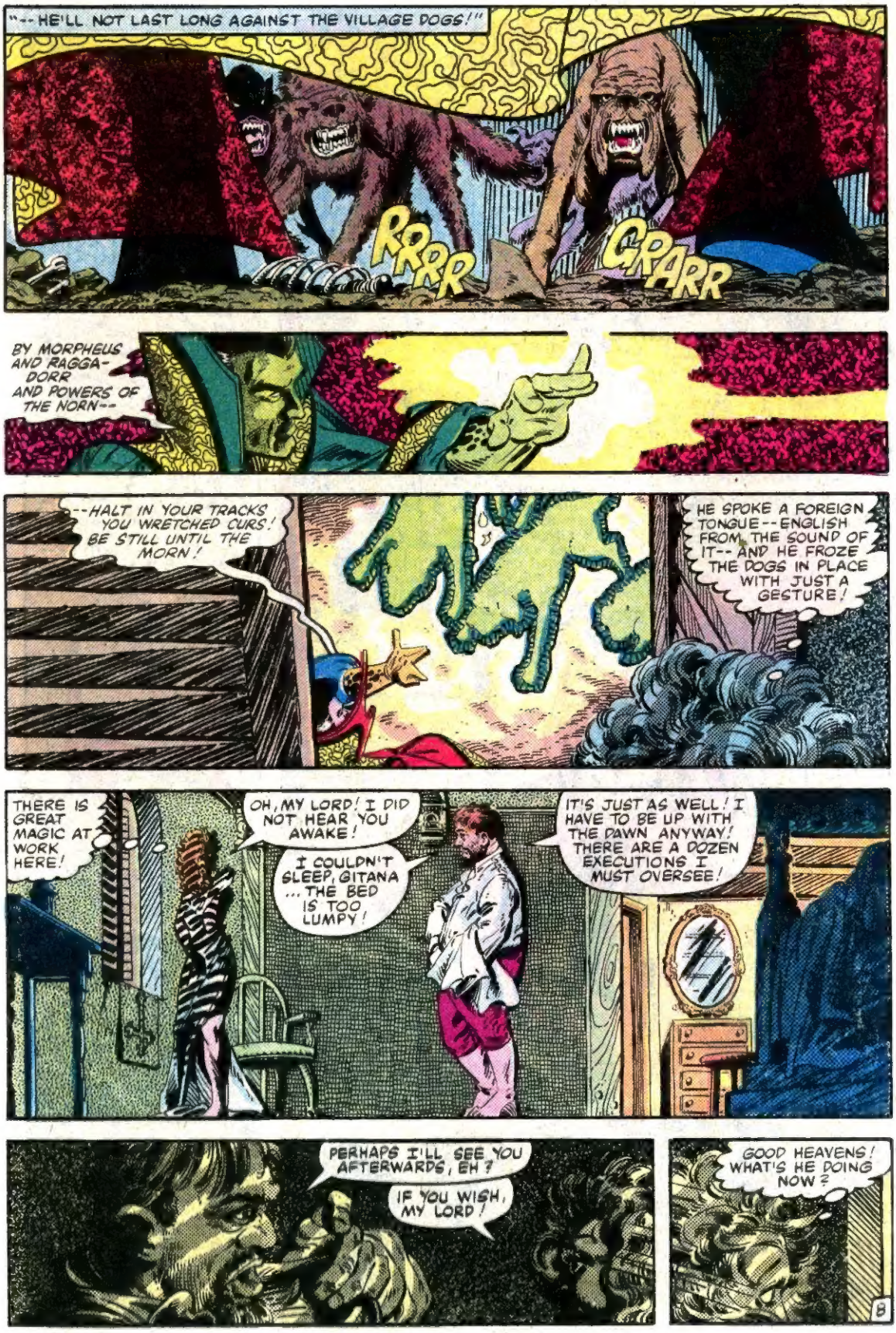

HERS IS MERELY THE LOVE OF A PATIENT FOR HER DOCTOR. IT IS NOTHING... IT WILL PASS.
IF ONLY IT WOULD... BUT IT WON'T! STEPHEN, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! SHE LOVES YOU MORE THAN I DO!
EH?
WHEN I CONJURED MY SYMPATHY SPELL, I MOMENTARILY HELD MORGANA'S PSYCHE IN MY MIND! I FELT THE LOVE SHE HAS FOR YOU!
OH, STEPHEN... IT WAS SO WONDROUS ... SO BEAUTIFUL!
CLEA...
NO, LET ME FINISH.
I ADMIRE YOU STEPHEN. I'VE ADMIRED YOU SINCE THE FIRST DAY I SAW YOU--WHEN YOU CAME SWEEPING INTO MY HOME DIMENSION TO RESIST THE DREAD DORMAMMU... WHEN NO ONE ELSE WOULD DARE!
YOU RESCUED ME... BROUGHT ME TO YOUR WORLD... GAVE ME A NEW LIFE AS YOUR DISCIPLE! IN A WAY, I THINK I EVEN WORSHIPPED YOU.
AND I DID LOVE YOU.
OH, YES! BEFORE I MET YOU, I HAD NEVER REALLY LOVED ANOTHER. LOVE WAS, AFTER ALL, NEARLY UNKNOWN IN THE DARK DIMENSION.
I THOUGHT THAT NO LOVE COULD POSSIBLY BE GREATER THAN OURS... THAN MINE FOR YOU.
BUT I WAS WRONG... OH, SO WRONG!
NEXT TO MORGANA'S LOVE, MINE IS LITTLE MORE THAN A SHAM. AND I... I NEVER SUSPECTED.
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IT WAS POSSIBLE TO LOVE ANOTHER SO... SO TOTALLY. I FEEL DWARFED BEFORE THE MAGNITUDE OF HER LOVE.
CLEA, MORGANA IS A MARVELOUS WOMAN, BUT SHE MEANS NOTHING TO ME.
SHE WILL... IN TIME.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
STEPHEN, I...
OH!
ARE YOU DR. STRANGE?
3

I AM STEPHEN STRANGE. WHO ARE YOU?
LET ME HANDLE THIS, EMIL.
THIS IS AN HONOR, SIR! I'M SAMUEL FINCH, THE BLESSINGS' FAMILY PHYSICIAN!
THIS IS MORGANA'S MOTHER, REGINA ... AND HER RATHER IMPATIENT FATHER, EMIL.
HOW DO YOU DO?
DOCTOR ... MR. AND MRS. BLESSING ... THIS IS MY ASSISTANT, CLEA.
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU, BUT YOU MUST EXCUSE ME ... I WAS JUST LEAVING.
WHAT?
QUITE A STRIKING MAN!
HMMPH! ANOTHER TALL KNOW-IT-ALL!
WE'LL TALK ABOUT THIS LATER, STEPHEN, I'M GOING HOME!
AS YOU WISH. BUT YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO UPSET ABOUT THIS. I DOUBT THAT IT'S AS SERIOUS AS IT SEEMS.
BLESSING
SEE HERE, STRANGE ... IF MY DAUGHTER IS ILL, AND YOU'RE AS GOOD AS FINCH SAYS YOU ARE, THEN I WANT YOU TO TEND TO HER.
MONEY IS NO OBJECT!
MR. BLESSING, WOULD YOU KINDLY--!
BUT BEFORE DR. STRANGE CAN FINISH...
MORGANA!
GOOD HEAVENS! IS THAT... LIGHTNING?
NO, BUT IT IS SERIOUS! FINCH, GET THE BLESSINGS OUT OF HERE--AND LOCK THE DOOR!
B-BUT--!
DON'T ARGUE, MAN--MOVE!
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN EMIL AT A LOSS FOR WORDS--NOT THAT I BLAME HIM!
WHAT IN HADES IS GOING ON?
SEE FOR YOURSELF!
HMM... VITAL SIGNS SEEM NORMAL, BUT... NO! HER PULSE IS WEAKENING!
THE CHANGE IS ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLE, BUT IT'S WEAKENING!
HELLO, WONG. THERE IS AN EMERGENCY HERE. LISTEN CLOSELY...
4


AND, AS STRANGE FINISHES HIS CALL...
DOCTOR, I'D SWEAR THAT SOMETHING IS ...IS DRAINING MORGANA'S LIFE AWAY!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT'S HAPPENING! THAT "LIGHTNING", AS YOU CALLED IT, WAS A MANIFESTATION OF A KIND OF PSYCHIC LEECHING!
Y-YOU'RE SERIOUS!
YES, AND I'VE ALREADY TAKEN STEPS TO TRACE THE SOURCE.
"WE NEED ONLY AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF THE NECESSARY ASSISTANCE.
"I PRAY WE HAVE ENOUGH TIME..."
SOON...
WONG? I'D EXPECTED CLEA...
THE MISTRESS HAD NOT YET RETURNED. I THOUGHT IT BEST NOT TO WAIT.
WHO IS THIS, STRANGE? WHAT'S GOING ON?!
MR. BLESSING, YOUR DAUGHTER'S LIFE IS IN DANGER! IF YOU WISH TO HELP, THEN LEAVE THE ROOM!
A-ALL RIGHT. YOU'RE THE DOCTOR.
MY MAN-SERVANT WONG WILL BE ASSISTING US, DR. FINCH. I MUST WARN YOU--DON'T BE SURPRISED BY ANYTHING YOU SEE!
SNAP
HE CONJURED UP THAT WEIRD OUTFIT WITH JUST A SNAP!
"CONJURED?!" WHAT AM I THINKING?
FINCH, KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON MORGANA. IF HER VITAL SIGNS START TO DETERIORATE, YOU'LL HAVE TO INITIATE RADICAL CARDIO-VASCULAR TREATMENT!
THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION WILL NEVER BELIEVE THIS!
LIGHT THE CANDLE, WONG!
YOU MUST CONCENTRATE ON THE FLAME. IT SHALL SERVE AS MY ANCHOR TO MORGANA'S PHYSICAL SELF...
...AS I SEARCH FOR HER PSYCHIC ESSENCE! GUARD THE FLAME WELL, WONG! IF IT SHOULD GO OUT BEFORE I RETURN--
--MORGANA AND I COULD BOTH BE SWEPT AWAY!
HE'S DISAPPEARING INTO THAT GLOW!
THE FAITHFUL WONG MERELY NODS, CHANNELING HIS MIND TO A SINGLE THOUGHT... AND THAT THOUGHT IS OF THE FLAME!
HE BARELY NOTICES AS HIS MASTER SLIPS FROM THE REALITY OF THE HOSPITAL ROOM... AND INTO THE UNREALITY OF THE WORLDS BEYOND!

DOCTOR STRANGE... COME FORTH!
THE DIMENSION OF DREAMS BECKONS! OF COURSE, I SHOULD HAVE SUSPECTED--!
NIGHTMARE! YOU SEEK TO CONFOUND ME ONCE MORE!
WRONG, YOU FOOL! WE MEET NOT AS FOEMEN! THIS TIME... MUCH AS I AM LOATHE TO ADMIT... I NEED YOUR HELP!
WHAT?! THE OVERLORD OF THE DREAM DIMENSION SEEKS MY AID?!
SILENCE! I WISH NOT TO BE REMINDED! LISTEN CLOSELY! I SHALL EXPLAIN THIS BUT ONCE!
THE ONE YOU CALL MORGANA BLESSING WAS SUBJECTED TO COUNTLESS MYSTICAL FORCES WHILE SHE WAS HELD CAPTIVE IN THE ERA OF YOUR SECOND WORLD WAR.
BY CHANCE, THOSE FORCES HAVE CAUSED A SHARD OF HER SOUL TO BE RE-FLECTED BACK THROUGH TIME, ALONG THE KARMIC LINE OF HER PAST LIVES!
IF THE SOUL-SHARD IS NOT STOPPED BEFORE IT REACHES THE TIME OF THE BIRTH OF MAN, HUMANITY'S COLLECTIVE UNCON-SCIOUS WILL BE IRREPARABLY ALTERED. MANKIND WILL STOP DREAMING... AND I WILL CEASE TO BE!
"I AM A CREATURE OF THIS TIME-LESS REALM-- POWERLESS TO ACT DIRECTLY. BUT YOU, STRANGE, HAVE HAD CONTACT WITH THE WOMAN!
"ONLY YOU CAN HALT THE SOUL SHARD!
"YOU MUST DO IT...


...BEFORE TIME RUNS OUT!
LIFE TIMES PART II
IT IS UNBELIEVABLE, BUT NIGHTMARE WAS ABSOLUTELY SINCERE ABOUT THE DANGER TO HUMANITY! AND, OF COURSE, TO HIMSELF!
THE LORD OF DREAMS MUST BE CLOSE TO FRANTIC-- HE HURLED ME OUT OF HIS DIMENSION AND ACROSS TIME AFTER THE SOUL-SHARD BEFORE I COULD QUESTION HIM FURTHER!
FROM WHAT I KNOW OF REINCARNATION, THE SOUL-SHARD WOULD NATURALLY LINGER AT CRITICAL PAST LIVES. NIGHTMARE HAS OBVIOUSLY TRANSPORTED ME TO THE CLOSEST SUCH "LIFE-TIME!"
WHAT A BIZARRE CONCEPT!
FROM THE LOOK OF THE BUILDINGS, I MUST BE IN A SPANISH VILLAGE... SOMETIME IN THE LATE 15TH CENTURY!
MOST MERCIFUL MOTHER--
--THAT MAN JUST... APPEARED IN THE ALLEYWAY! HE MUST BE IN LEAGUE WITH THE DEVIL!
WELL, WHATEVER HIS ALLEGIANCE--
7


"--HE'LL NOT LAST LONG AGAINST THE VILLAGE DOGS!"
RRRR
GRARR
BY MORPHEUS AND RAGGA-DORR AND POWERS OF THE NORN--
--HALT IN YOUR TRACKS YOU WRETCHED CURS! BE STILL UNTIL THE MORN!
HE SPOKE A FOREIGN TONGUE--ENGLISH FROM THE SOUND OF IT--AND HE FROZE THE DOGS IN PLACE WITH JUST A GESTURE!
THERE IS GREAT MAGIC AT WORK HERE!
OH, MY LORD! I DID NOT HEAR YOU AWAKE!
I COULDN'T SLEEP, GITANA ... THE BED IS TOO LUMPY!
IT'S JUST AS WELL! I HAVE TO BE UP WITH THE DAWN ANYWAY! THERE ARE A DOZEN EXECUTIONS I MUST OVERSEE!
PERHAPS I'LL SEE YOU AFTERWARDS, EH?
IF YOU WISH, MY LORD!
GOOD HEAVENS! WHAT'S HE DOING NOW?
8

I HAD BEST APPEAR TO BE ATTIRED IN THE STYLES OF THE DAY, IF I WISH FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT FOR MY SEARCH.
BUT WHERE DO I BEGIN? I'VE NEVER TRIED TO FIND ANYONE'S PAST LIFE BEFORE.
HE CHANGED HIS WHOLE APPEARANCE WITH BUT A NOD! PERHAPS HE IS THE DEVIL HIMSELF!
A GOOD-BYE KISS, MY SWEET?
WHAT?! OH... YES, OF COURSE!
WHAT I COULD DO WITH ONE SUCH AS HIM!
DO I DARE CALL OUT?
MY ENCHANTED AMULET SHOULD BE ABLE TO DETECT THE PRESENCE OF MORGANA'S PAST SELF.
EVEN NOW, I HAVE THE ODDEST FEELING THAT SHE'S NEAR. PERHAPS... AT THIS INN?
?!?! I CAN'T BELIEVE THE LUCK! HE'S COMING IN--
--HERE! THIS MUST BE AN OMEN!
THAT WILL COVER MY LODGING. COULD YOU SEND FOOD AND DRINK UP TO MY ROOM?
YES, SIR!
MINUTES LATER...
THIS IS MADNESS! I SHOULD BE OUT, COMBING THE VILLAGE FOR THE MORGANA-PAST. WHAT STRANGE COMPULSION HAS LED ME TO THIS DUSTY INN?
IS THIS NIGHTMARE'S DOING, OR--?
KNOCK KNOCK
9

GOOD EVENING, KIND SIR. I KNOW IT'S LATE, BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ENJOY SOME COMPANY.
BY THE VISHANTI, I DON'T BELIEVE IT... BUT MY HIDDEN AMULET AFFIRMS IT!
YOU! YOU'RE THE ONE!
OH, I'M SO GLAD TO HEAR THAT!
AH, I THINK YOU MISUNDERSTAND!
I KNOW MORE THAN YOU THINK! I SAW YOU POP INTO THE ALLEY EARLIER!
REALLY? THEN I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND A LITTLE MORE OF THE ... UNUSUAL!!
OH, WHAT--?!
DON'T BE FRIGHTENED! I'M JUST DOUBLE-CHECKING!
YES, BY THE LIGHT OF THE AGAMOTTO, I SEE THAT YOU ARE THE WOMAN I'M LOOKING FOR ... BUT THE SOUL-SHARD HAS NOT YET REACHED YOU! THAT IS LUCK!
SOUL-SHARD? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WELL...
HERE'S YOUR... HUH? GITANA, WHAT'RE YOU--?
THANK YOU, JUAN! THAT WILL BE ALL!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU... BUT EXCITEMENT ALWAYS MAKES ME THIRSTY!
HERE! GITANA'S MEN ALWAYS DRINK FIRST!
I MUST SAY, YOU'RE NOT WHAT I EXPECTED TO FIND!
NO, GITANA IS FULL OF SURPRISES! ISN'T SHE... DEVIL!
AND, OBSERVING FROM HIS TIMELESS REALM...
THAT STUPID IDIOT! HE ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE DRUGGED!
IS HE TRYING TO DESTROY ME?!
10

NO... STRANGE IS NO FOOL! HE MUST KNOW THAT HUMANITY WILL GO MAD, IF IT CANNOT DREAM!
AND EVEN IF THAT WERE NOT THE CASE, HE WOULD NOT SACRIFICE THE BLESSING WOMAN TO DESTROY ME!
"YES... THE BLESSING WOMAN..."
"...I SEE THAT HER LIFE-FORCES EBB AS HER SOUL-SHARD IS DRAWN TO A CRITICAL POINT IN HER PAST LIFE!
DR. STRANGE MUST BE AWAKE TO STOP THE SOUL-SHARD AT THAT MOMENT! DO YOU HEAR ME, STRANGE? AWAKE!
AWAKE!
AWAKE!!
UNNNGH!
OBSERVE, MY BRETHREN! EVEN THOUGH DRUGGED WITH OPIATE, THE DEMON FIGHTS HIS WAY BACK TO WAKEFULNESS!
SURELY, SUCH A BEING MUST BE AN EMISSARY OF THE DEVIL... AN ENEMY OF GOD AND MAN!

IT IS, THEREFORE, THE SACRED DUTY OF THIS TRIBUNAL OF THE INQUISITION TO DETERMINE THE FATE OF THIS CREATURE WHICH MASQUERADES AS A MAN! WHAT SAY YOU, BRETHREN?
THE ONLY ANSWER IS... DEATH!
AYE! DEATH... BY TORTURE! MAKE HIM LEAVE THIS WORLD CURSING HIS INFERNAL MASTER!
DEATH IT SHALL BE THEN... A LONG, LINGERING DEATH!
BY HOGGOTH, THIS GOES FROM BAD TO WORSE!
I'VE ACTUALLY BEEN DELIVERED INTO THE HANDS OF THE SPANISH INQUISITION... THE MOST UNHOLY GROUP TO EVER ASSEMBLE IN THE NAME OF "RIGHTEOUSNESS!"
GRACIOUS SIRS, I AM INNOCENT OF WRONG-DOING! I AM BUT A HUMBLE WAYFARER, .WHO--!
HOLD YOUR FOUL TONGUE, DEMON! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DECEIVE A HIGH INQUISITOR?
BAH! THE UNHOLY ARE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHO POSSESS POWER FROM BEYOND THE MORTAL SPHERE!
AT MY COMMAND --LET THIS ONE'S TRUE COLORS NOW BE REVEALED!
AAARRRGHH!!
LOOK! SEE THE HORNS OF HIS CLOAK?! THIS ONE IS SURELY THE DEVIL'S OWN!
THE CHIEF INQUISITOR CONTROLS CONSIDERABLE MYSTIC FORCES HIMSELF! THAT WAS CERTAINLY UNEXPECTED!

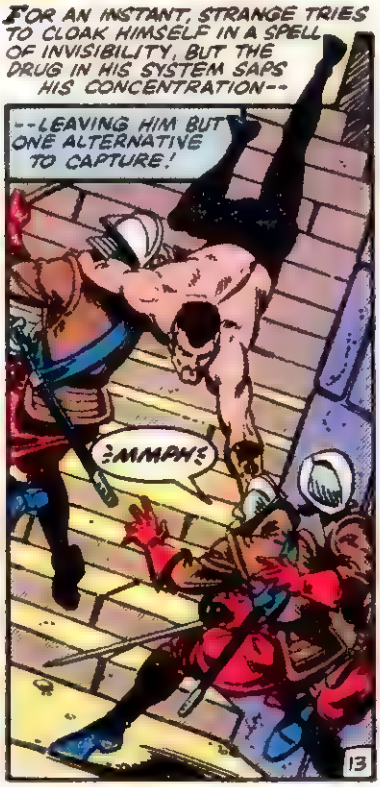
GUARDS, PREPARE THIS CREATURE FOR SENTENCING!
r-r-r-i-p
STILL TOO GROGGY FROM THE DRUG TO CONJURE A MYSTIC DEFENSE!
MY POWERS OVER THE MATERIAL ARE LIMITED... BUT I THINK I CAN MANAGE ENOUGH... CONCENTRATION... TO SPRING THE CATCH IN THESE PRIMITIVE BONDS!

AND I DOUBT THAT MY CAPTORS WILL EXPECT THIS KIND OF PHYSICAL ATTACK!
AH, CORRECT!
WOOP!
GHAK!

STOP HIM!

I MUST GET OUT OF HERE... FIND SOME PLACE TO HIDE, TO REST...
... TO CLEAR MY HEAD SO THAT I CAN FIND GITANA AND HALT THIS MADNESS!
SWISH

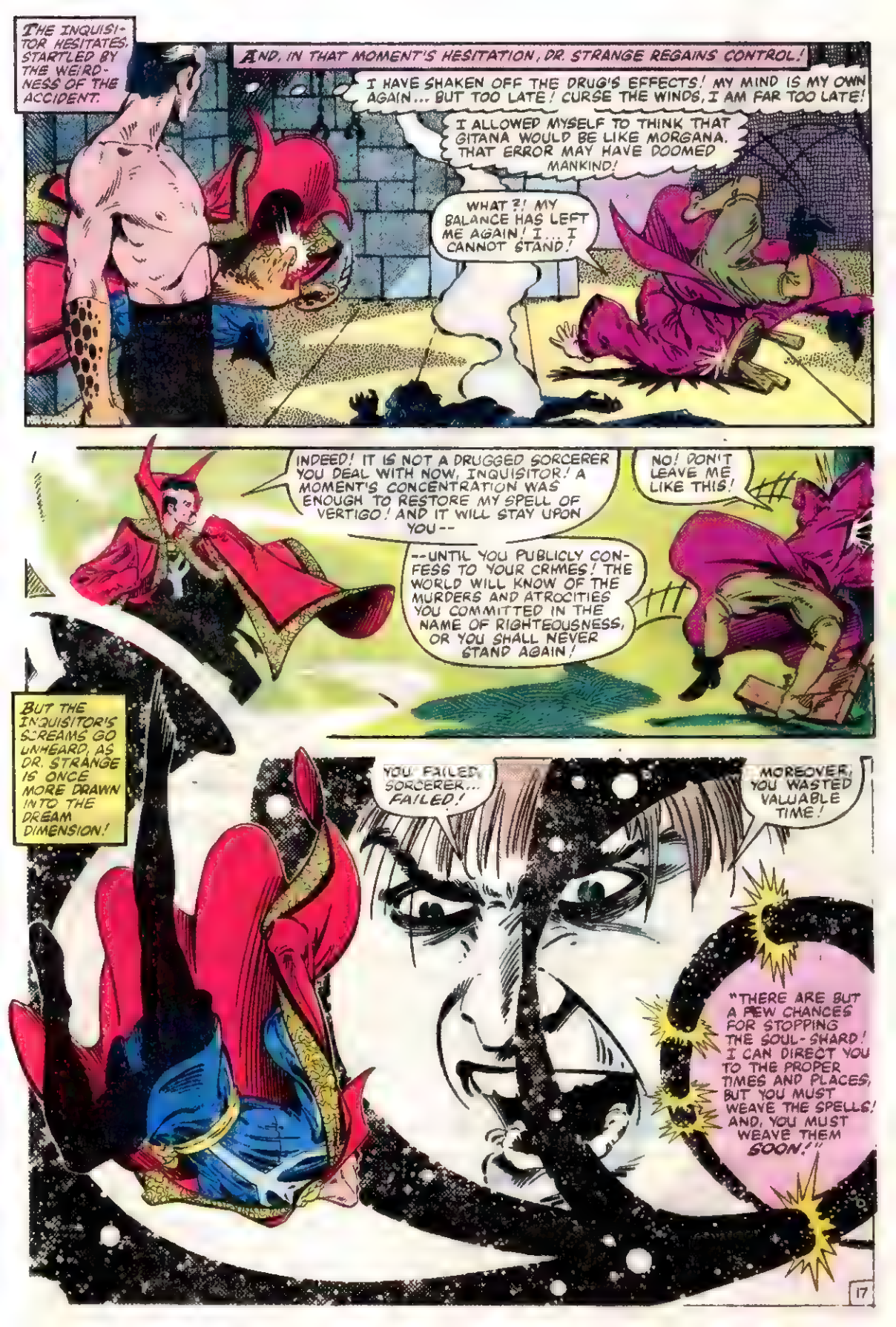
GUARDS! SEIZE THE HERETIC!
EH ?

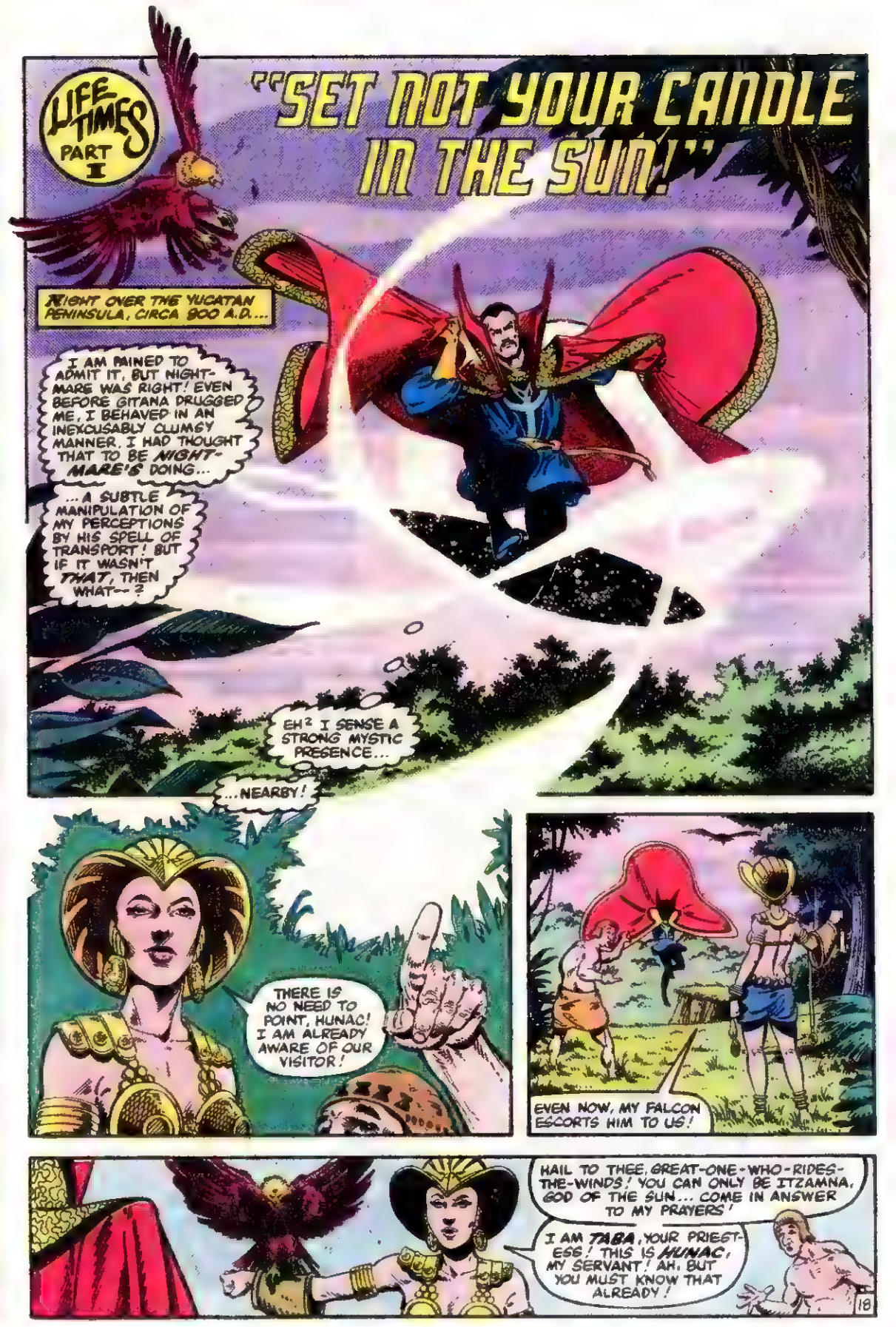

FOR AN INSTANT, STRANGE TRIES TO CLOAK HIMSELF IN A SPELL OF INVISIBILITY, BUT THE DRUG IN HIS SYSTEM SAPS HIS CONCENTRATION--
--LEAVING HIM BUT ONE ALTERNATIVE TO CAPTURE!
MMPH!

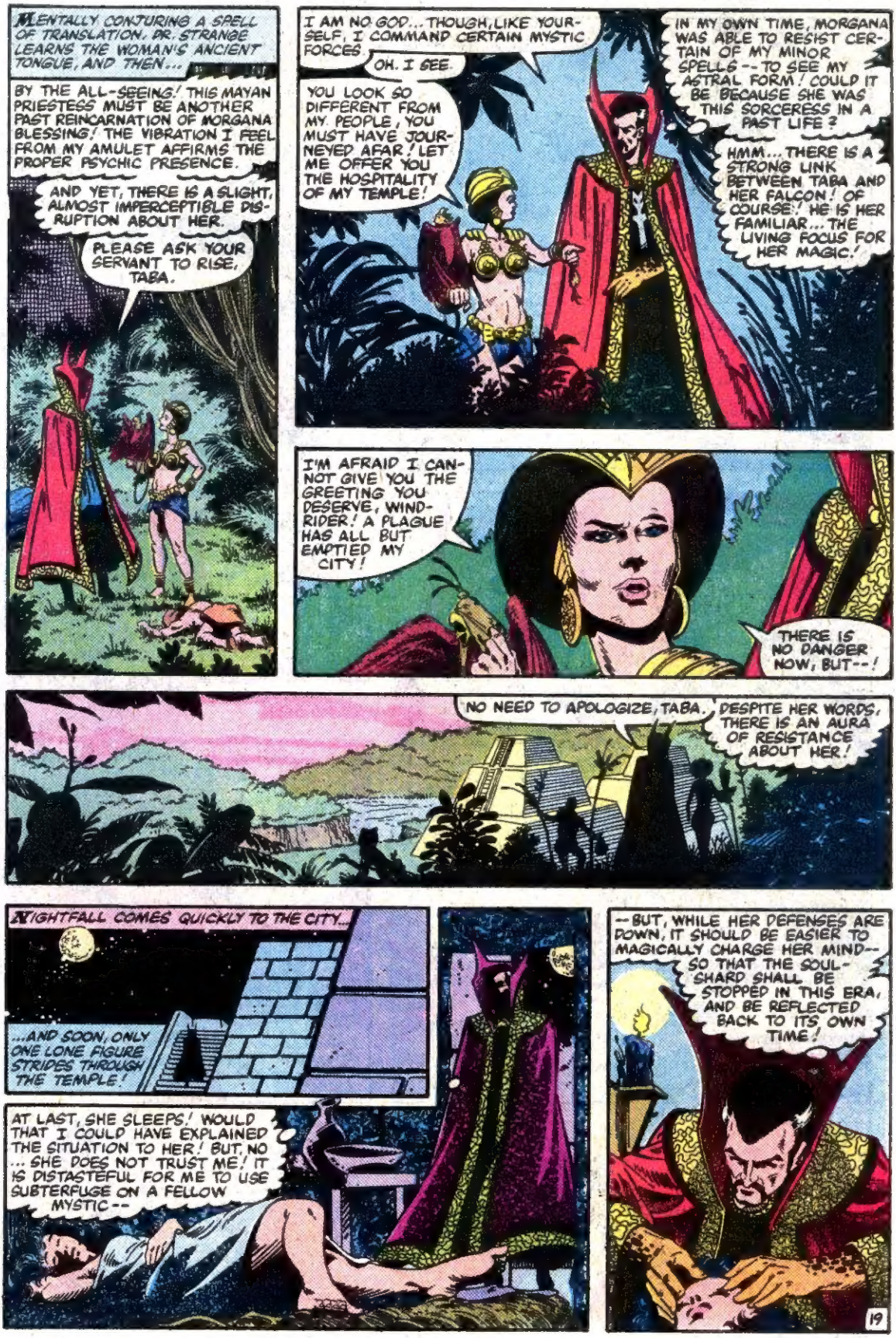
THANK OSHTUR, THERE ARE ONLY A FEW OF THEM!
EVEN SO, HAD MY EARLY TRAINING IN TIBET NOT INCLUDED A SMATTERING OF INSTRUCTION IN THE MARTIAL ARTS--
--I DARE THINK THAT I WOULD BE IN CHAINS BY NOW!
THE MEN OF THIS TIME ARE SMALLER--NOT AS STRONG OR AS FAST AS THOSE OF MY ERA! AN ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGE, TO BE SURE!
STILL, ALL OF THIS PHYSICAL COMBAT ILL BECOMES ME!
THE HANDS OF A FORMER SURGEON WERE NOT MEANT FOR PUNCHING AND HITTING!
AH, SANCTUARY AT LAST! IF I CAN HAVE BUT A FEW MINUTES OF PEACE IN WHICH TO GATHER MY WITS--!
NO USE... THERE ARE MORE OF THEM NOW! THEY'LL SOON FIND ME, UNLESS I CAN CREATE A DIVERSION!
MUST... CLEAR... MY... HEAD!
FIGHTING THE DRUG'S EFFECT, THE MYSTIC MASTER REACHES OUT WITH HIS MIND... SEARCHING, PROBING... UNTIL HE FINDS A LOOSE STONE MANY YARDS AWAY!
AND THEN, BATTLING TO MAINTAIN CONCENTRATION, HE MAGICALLY CAUSES IT TO MOVE!
WHAT WAS THAT?
IT CAME FROM BACK THERE!
HE MUST HAVE GONE THIS WAY!
FOLLOW ME!
BREATHING A PRAYER OF THANKS, DR. STRANGE RACES IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION... WHEN SUDDENLY, HIS BODY IS WRACKED WITH PAIN!
THAT PAIN... JUST ABOVE MY HEART... ALMOST MADE ME BLACK OUT! THIS IS NO ORDINARY ATTACK! I WAS STABBED... BY MAGIC!
14

FOR LONG, AGONIZING MINUTES, DR. STRANGE SKULKS THROUGH THE SHADOWS OF THE CASTLE, SEEKING THE HIDEAWAY OF HIS ATTACKER. AND THEN, FINALLY...
RELAX, MIGUEL!
THE HIGH INQUISITOR WON'T BE CHECKING ON US FOR HOURS! HE'S IN THAT CHAMBER WITH HIS GYPSY WOMAN!
AH-HAH!
THE INQUISITOR--OF COURSE! WEAKENED OR NOT, I MUST CONFRONT HIM BEFORE HE SERIOUSLY WOUNDS ME!
AS EVER, YOUR SUGGESTIONS WERE WELL-ADVISED, GITANA! IT'S MOST SATISFYING TO TURN THE DARK ARTS AGAINST THEIR USERS!
SOON THE DEMON WILL BE WEAKENED TO THE POINT WHERE HE WILL BEG TO BE CAPTURED! THEN WE SHALL LEARN HIS SECRETS OF POWER!
GITANA?!
CREEAK
WHAT?! THE DEMON... HERE?!
HE'S STILL ON HIS FEET! I TOLD YOU THAT YOU WEREN'T CASTING THAT SPELL RIGHT!
BE STILL, WOMAN! AND REMEMBER YOUR PLACE! I SHALL DEAL WITH HIM!
HE'S CHARGING LIKE A MADDENED BULL--
--BUT HE'S EVEN SLOWER THAN HIS MEN!
WEAK AS I AM, I AM STILL FASTER THAN HE!
YOU DARE LAY YOUR FOUL HANDS ON ME?! YOU SHALL DIE MOST PAINFULLY FOR THAT!
I THINK NOT!
LET THE SHIFTING SANDS OF IKONN CONFUSE MY RAGING FOE! BY THE EYE OF THE ETERNAL, LET HIM FALL FROM VERTIGO!
WHU--?
CHINK
CRACK
15

YOU WILL NOT STOP ME WITH YOUR DEVIL-WORDS!
IT IS MY SACRED DUTY TO DESTROY DEMONS--
--AND DESTROY YOU I SHALL... WITH WHITE-HOT IRON!
STRANGE'S SLOWLY CLEARING MIND FIGHTS TO MAINTAIN THE SPELL. BUT HE IS BE-DEVILED FROM ALL SIDES! THE SPELL FALTERS...
...AND THEN...
ONE SUCH AS YOU DESERVES NOT THE CHANCE TO REPENT!
ARE YOU MAD?!
YOU CAN'T KILL HIM YET! WE MUST TORTURE HIM FIRST, AND LEARN HIS SECRETS... THE WAY WE DID WITH THOSE BEFORE HIM!
AWAY FROM ME, HARLOT! THE INQUISITOR ALONE DECIDES WHEN ONE LIVES OR DIES!
MORE BY REFLEX THAN BY INTENT, THE INQUISITOR STRIKES! AND IN THE MOMENT OF THAT STRIKING, GITANA STANDS TRANSFIXED BY AN EERIE LIGHT!
NO!
AND DOCTOR STRANGE INSTANTLY REALIZES WHAT HAS HAPPENED... THAT THE SOUL-SHARD OF MORGANA BLESSING HAS FINALLY VISITED THE GYPSY WOMAN... IN HER LAST SECOND OF LIFE!
16

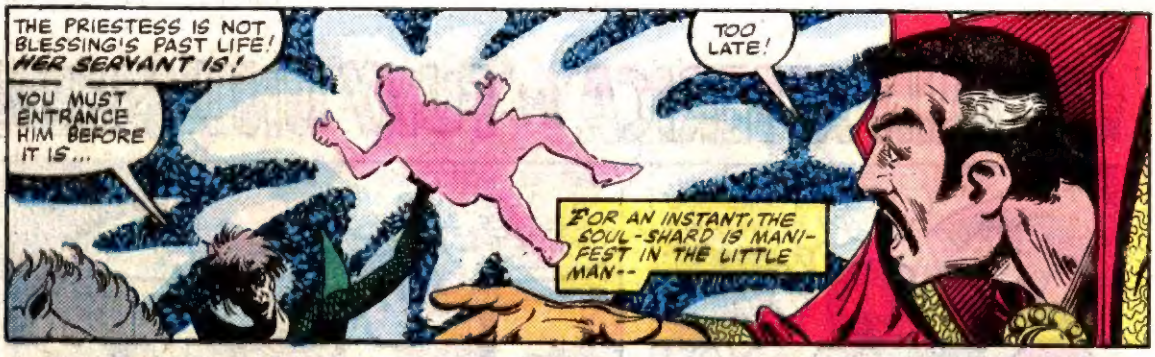

THE INQUISITOR HESITATES, STARTLED BY THE WEIRDNESS OF THE ACCIDENT.
AND, IN THAT MOMENT'S HESITATION, DR. STRANGE REGAINS CONTROL!
I HAVE SHAKEN OFF THE DRUG'S EFFECTS! MY MIND IS MY OWN AGAIN... BUT TOO LATE! CURSE THE WINDS, I AM FAR TOO LATE!
I ALLOWED MYSELF TO THINK THAT GITANA WOULD BE LIKE MORGANA. THAT ERROR MAY HAVE DOOMED MANKIND!
WHAT?! MY BALANCE HAS LEFT ME AGAIN! I... I CANNOT STAND!
INDEED! IT IS NOT A DRUGGED SORCERER YOU DEAL WITH NOW, INQUISITOR! A MOMENT'S CONCENTRATION WAS ENOUGH TO RESTORE MY SPELL OF VERTIGO! AND IT WILL STAY UPON YOU--
--UNTIL YOU PUBLICLY CONFESS TO YOUR CRIMES! THE WORLD WILL KNOW OF THE MURDERS AND ATROCITIES YOU COMMITTED IN THE NAME OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, OR YOU SHALL NEVER STAND AGAIN!
NO! DON'T LEAVE ME LIKE THIS!
BUT THE INQUISITOR'S SCREAMS GO UNHEARD, AS DR. STRANGE IS ONCE MORE DRAWN INTO THE DREAM DIMENSION!
YOU FAILED, SORCERER... FAILED!
MOREOVER, YOU WASTED VALUABLE TIME!
"THERE ARE BUT A FEW CHANCES FOR STOPPING THE SOUL-SHARD! I CAN DIRECT YOU TO THE PROPER TIMES AND PLACES, BUT YOU MUST WEAVE THE SPELLS! AND, YOU MUST WEAVE THEM SOON!"


LIFE TIMES PART I
"SET NOT YOUR CANDLE IN THE SUN!"
NIGHT OVER THE YUCATAN PENINSULA, CIRCA 900 A.D....
I AM PAINED TO ADMIT IT, BUT NIGHTMARE WAS RIGHT! EVEN BEFORE GITANA DRUGGED ME, I BEHAVED IN AN INEXCUSABLY CLUMSY MANNER. I HAD THOUGHT THAT TO BE NIGHTMARE'S DOING...
...A SUBTLE MANIPULATION OF MY PERCEPTIONS BY HIS SPELL OF TRANSPORT! BUT IF IT WASN'T THAT, THEN WHAT--?
EH? I SENSE A STRONG MYSTIC PRESENCE...
...NEARBY!
THERE IS NO NEED TO POINT, HUNAC! I AM ALREADY AWARE OF OUR VISITOR!
EVEN NOW, MY FALCON ESCORTS HIM TO US!
HAIL TO THEE, GREAT-ONE-WHO-RIDES-THE-WINDS! YOU CAN ONLY BE ITZAMNA, GOD OF THE SUN... COME IN ANSWER TO MY PRAYERS!
I AM TABA, YOUR PRIESTESS! THIS IS HUNAC, MY SERVANT! AH, BUT YOU MUST KNOW THAT ALREADY!
18


MENTALLY CONJURING A SPELL OF TRANSLATION, DR. STRANGE LEARNS THE WOMAN'S ANCIENT TONGUE, AND THEN...
BY THE ALL-SEEING! THIS MAYAN PRIESTESS MUST BE ANOTHER PAST REINCARNATION OF MORGANA BLESSING! THE VIBRATION I FEEL FROM MY AMULET AFFIRMS THE PROPER PSYCHIC PRESENCE.
AND YET, THERE IS A SLIGHT, ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLE DISRUPTION ABOUT HER.
PLEASE ASK YOUR SERVANT TO RISE, TABA.
I AM NO GOD... THOUGH, LIKE YOURSELF, I COMMAND CERTAIN MYSTIC FORCES.
OH. I SEE.
YOU LOOK SO DIFFERENT FROM MY PEOPLE, YOU MUST HAVE JOURNEYED AFAR! LET ME OFFER YOU THE HOSPITALITY OF MY TEMPLE!
IN MY OWN TIME, MORGANA WAS ABLE TO RESIST CERTAIN OF MY MINOR SPELLS -- TO SEE MY ASTRAL FORM! COULD IT BE BECAUSE SHE WAS THIS SORCERESS IN A PAST LIFE?
HMM... THERE IS A STRONG LINK BETWEEN TABA AND HER FALCON! OF COURSE! HE IS HER FAMILIAR... THE LIVING FOCUS FOR HER MAGIC!
I'M AFRAID I CANNOT GIVE YOU THE GREETING YOU DESERVE, WIND-RIDER! A PLAGUE HAS ALL BUT EMPTIED MY CITY!
THERE IS NO DANGER NOW, BUT--!
NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE, TABA.
DESPITE HER WORDS, THERE IS AN AURA OF RESISTANCE ABOUT HER!
NIGHTFALL COMES QUICKLY TO THE CITY...
...AND SOON, ONLY ONE LONE FIGURE STRIDES THROUGH THE TEMPLE!
AT LAST, SHE SLEEPS! WOULD THAT I COULD HAVE EXPLAINED THE SITUATION TO HER! BUT, NO ... SHE DOES NOT TRUST ME! IT IS DISTASTEFUL FOR ME TO USE SUBTERFUGE ON A FELLOW MYSTIC --
-- BUT, WHILE HER DEFENSES ARE DOWN, IT SHOULD BE EASIER TO MAGICALLY CHARGE HER MIND-- SO THAT THE SOUL-SHARD SHALL BE STOPPED IN THIS ERA, AND BE REFLECTED BACK TO ITS OWN TIME!
19

BUT, AS DR. STRANGE BEGINS TO WEAVE HIS SPELL, HE SUDDENLY FINDS HIMSELF IN AN EERIE OTHER-REALM --HIS FORM WEIRDLY... ALTERED!
BY THE VISHANTI! WHAT IS THIS?!
NO! NOT THE SORCERER... NOT YET! I'M NOT READY FOR HIM YET!
I AM BACK IN THE LIMITLESS DIMENSION OF DREAMS! TABA'S MIND HAS INSTINCTIVELY REACTED TO MY SPELL --
--AND I HAVE BEEN DRAWN INTO HER DREAM!
TO ME, MY WINGED-ONE!
KRAAA
BY HOGGOTH! IN THIS UNREAL PLANE... I HAVE BECOME HER WORST NIGHTMARES!
HAH! NOW I AM AS ONE WITH MY FALCON, SORCERER! NOW WE SHALL BATTLE FOR SUPREMACY!
AND, OBSERVING ALL FROM HIS DIRE SANCTUM OF DREAMS...
NO, NO, NO! IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE THIS!
STRANGE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! STOP THIS AT ONCE!
I SEEM TO HEAR NIGHTMARE, SPEAKING TO ME FROM THE BEYOND! NO, IT MUST BE SOME PLOY OF TABA'S! I MUST OVERCOME HER QUICKLY, SO THAT I CAN COMPLETE MY SPELL!

SUMMONING HIS GHASTLY STEED, NIGHTMARE RACES ACROSS THE TIMELESS REALM--
--SLICING THROUGH THE DREAMS OF HUMANITY... ALL THE DREAMS THAT HAVE EVER BEEN, ALL THAT WILL EVER BE...
...UNTIL HE FINDS THE DREAM--AND THE DREAMER--HE SEEKS!
AND THEN, WITH THE TERRIFIED LITTLE DREAM-MAN IN TOW--
--NIGHTMARE CHARGES HEADLONG INTO THE DREAM-WAR BETWEEN TABA AND DR. STRANGE!
STOP, YOU FOOL! YOU'RE AFTER THE WRONG ONE!
21

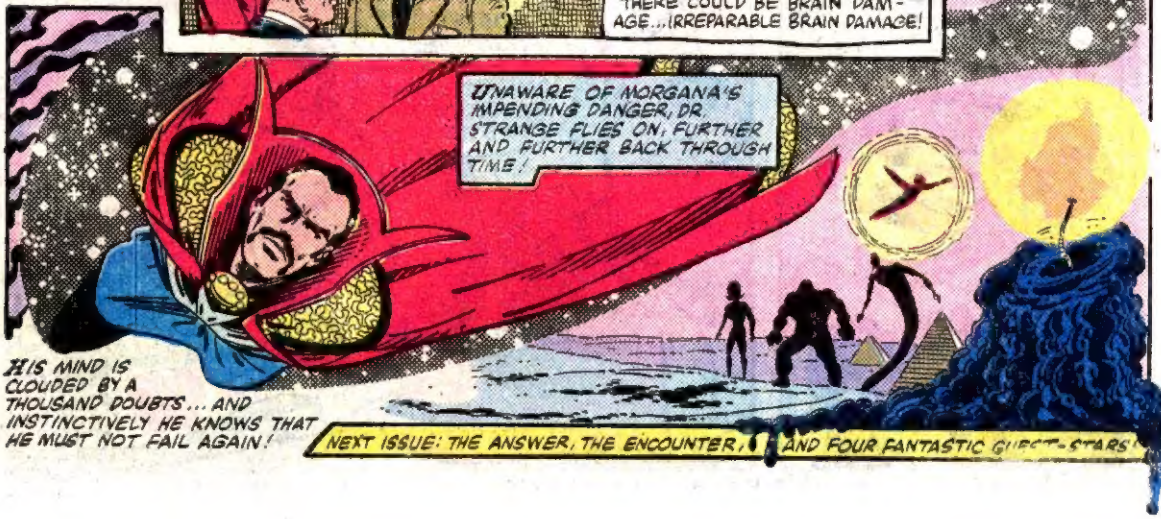

THE PRIESTESS IS NOT BLESSING'S PAST LIFE! HER SERVANT IS!
YOU MUST ENTRANCE HIM BEFORE IT IS...
TOO LATE!
FOR AN INSTANT, THE SOUL-SHARD IS MANIFEST IN THE LITTLE MAN--

--AND THEN, IT IS GONE! THE DREAM COMES TO AN END!
THE DREAMERS DEPART.
THE DREAM-MASTER IS FURIOUS!

IS THIS THE SAME DOCTOR STRANGE WHO HAS SO OFTEN THWARTED ME? IS THIS THE MAGE WHO HAS BEEN CALLED EARTH'S SORCERER SUPREME?!
I WOULD EXPECT SUCH INCOMPETENCE FROM A NOVICE! YOUR DISCIPLE CLEA WOULD HAVE DONE BETTER! BUT I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE... THE INFERNAL HELP ME... I MUST DEPEND ON YOU.
CLEA? COULD SHE BE THE SOURCE OF MY PROBLEMS?

AM I SUBCONSCIOUSLY REACTING TO CLEA'S DEPRESSION--WORRYING ON SUCH AN EMOTIONAL PLANE THAT I UNKNOWINGLY STUMBLE ALONG THROUGH THIS MISSION? MY ERRORS HAVE BEEN ABSURD!
I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED THAT MORGANA COULD HAVE BEEN A MAN IN A PAST LIFE! WHY DIDN'T I? WHY?
BROODING OVER HIS FAILURES, THE MYSTIC IS AGAIN SWEPT UP IN NIGHTMARE'S PSYCHIC TIME-FUNNEL.

WHILE, IN PRESENT-DAY NEW YORK...
I WISH I COULD GIVE YOU GOOD NEWS, BUT... WELL, MORGANA IS SLIPPING DEEPER INTO HER COMA. IF SHE DOESN'T IMPROVE SOON, THERE COULD BE BRAIN DAMAGE...IRREPARABLE BRAIN DAMAGE!


UNAWARE OF MORGANA'S IMPENDING DANGER, DR. STRANGE FLIES ON, FURTHER AND FURTHER BACK THROUGH TIME!
HIS MIND IS CLOUDED BY A THOUSAND DOUBTS... AND INSTINCTIVELY HE KNOWS THAT HE MUST NOT FAIL AGAIN!
NEXT ISSUE: THE ANSWER, THE ENCOUNTER, AND FOUR FANTASTIC GUEST-STARS!